# Health News Release

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#### State disciplines health care providers

**OLYMPIA** — The Washington State Department of Health has taken disciplinary actions or withdrawn charges against health care providers in our state.

The department's Health Systems Quality Assurance Office works with boards, commissions, and advisory committees to set licensing standards for more than 70 health care professions (e.g., medical doctors, nurses, counselors).

Information about health care providers is on the agency website. Click on "Provider Credential Search" on the left hand side of the <u>Department of Health home page</u> (www.doh.wa.gov). The site includes information about a health care provider's license status, the expiration and renewal date of their credential, disciplinary actions and copies of legal documents issued after July 1998. This information is also available by calling 360-236-4700. Consumers who think a health care provider acted unprofessionally are also encouraged to call and report their complaint.

#### **Asotin County**

In January 2011 the Nursing Assistant Program terminated the order of probation against certified nursing assistant **Erin M. Bowman** (NC10072799).

#### **Chelan County**

In January 2011 the Nursing Assistant Program granted the application of certified nursing assistant **Dennis A. Merritt** (NC60168638) and placed conditions against his certification. He was convicted of driving under the influence on more than one occasion, and driving while license suspended on more than one occasion. He must comply with terms and conditions set against his certification.

## **Douglas County**

In December 2011 the Agency Affiliated Counselor Program denied the application of **Vicki Rae Fisher** (CG60183219). She was convicted of theft in 2009 and entered into a stipulated order of continuance on a charge of assault — domestic violence in 2010.

#### **Grant County**

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In January 2011 the Medical Commission charged physician **Mohammad H. Said** (MD00018311) with unprofessional conduct. He allegedly failed to comply with previous terms and conditions set against his license.

# **Island County**

In January 2011 the Nursing Assistant Program charged certified nursing assistant **Julie J. Kirwan** (NC10095083) with unprofessional conduct. She was convicted of two counts of second degree assault — deadly weapon in 2010.

# **Kitsap County**

In January 2011 the Massage Program terminated the order of probation against **Dawn M. Kershaw** (MA60055097).

# **Kittitas County**

In January 2011 the Secretary of Health placed the license of licensed practical nurse **Debi D. Guse** (LP00050370) on probation for three years. She entered into a personal and romantic relationship with a patient's husband. After the patient died, she moved in with the patient's husband, accepted gifts, and allowed him to pay for her expenses. She must comply with terms and conditions set against her license.

In January 2011 the Chiropractic Commission denied the reactivation application of chiropractor **Richard F. Renzetti** (CH00001276). He billed for multiple patient treatments after allowing his license to practice as a chiropractor to expire.

In January 2011 the Medical Commission charged physician **Sawraj Singh** (MD00024891) with unprofessional conduct. The care he provided allegedly fell below the standard when performing dermatological procedures on multiple patients.

## **Klickitat County**

In January 2011 the Nursing Commission lifted the suspension against registered nurse **Bob L. Ratcliff** (RN00159108) and placed conditions against his license. He must comply with terms and conditions set against his license.

## **Pierce County**

In January 2011 the Medical Commission entered into an agreed order with physician **Andrew Kwon** (MD00034844). As medical director of a care center, he failed to adequately monitor nursing staff and changes in a patient's condition, resulting in patient death. He must comply with terms and conditions.

In January 2011 the Nursing Assistant Program released certified nursing assistant **Janet F. Lillegard** (NC60031866) from terms and conditions set against her certification.

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In January 2011 the Athletic Trainer Program released **Christopher T. Tucker** (A160047435) from terms and conditions set against his credential.

In January 2011 the Nursing Assistant Program reinstated the certification of certified nursing assistant **Michelle D. Walker** (NC10052818) and placed her credential on probation for 12 months. She must comply with terms and conditions.

In January 2011 the Health Care Assistant Program reprimanded **Saul P. Wolverton** (HC00149832, HC60104963) and placed his credentials on probation for three years. He inserted saline solution into a co-worker intravenously without authorization. This is outside the scope of practice for a health care assistant. He must comply with terms and conditions set against his credentials.

# **Skagit County**

In January 2011 the Massage Program charged **Jonathan K. Robbins** (MA00020363) with unprofessional conduct. During the course of a massage, he allegedly inserted his finger into a client's vagina, fondled the client, and warned her to keep what he had done a secret.

#### **Snohomish County**

In January 2011 the Health Care Assistant Program terminated the order of probation against **Jennifer Lynn Tangen** (HC60031555).

## **Spokane County**

In January 2011 the Nursing Assistant Program terminated the order of probation against certified nursing assistant **Vickie A. Eaker** (NC10095577).

In January 2011 the Chemical Dependency Professional Program released chemical dependency professional trainee **Doddie Ann Moore** (CO60154019) from terms and conditions set against her certification.

#### **Thurston County**

In January 2011 the Board of Occupational Therapy placed restrictions against the license of **Jessica B. Markowitz** (OT00003968). Contrary to a patient's care plan, she placed hot packs on a patient's shoulder and left the patient alone. She did not observe a burn when she removed the hot packs later, but the treatment caused a blister on the patient's shoulder. She must comply with terms and conditions set against her license.

## **Whatcom County**

In January 2011 the Nursing Commission terminated the order of probation against registered nurse **Lori A. Crody**, also known as Lori Dublack and Lori Geisleman, (RN00162033).

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In January 2011 the Nursing Commission charged registered nurse **Jay W. Rydberg** (RN00168233) with being unable to practice with reasonable skill and safety.

#### **Out of State**

**Minnesota:** In January 2011 the Nursing Commission charged registered nurse **Tanya Pudil** (RN00134421) with unprofessional conduct. She entered into an agreed order with the Minnesota State Board of Nursing where terms and conditions were set against her license to practice as a registered nurse.

**Montana:** In January 2011 the Board of Occupational Therapy charged occupational therapist assistant **Sheila S. Cottrell** (OC0000679) with unprofessional conduct. She allegedly failed to comply with terms and conditions set against her credential.

**Oregon:** In January 2011 the Agency Affiliated Counselor Program granted the application of **Nathaniel Davis** (CG60201758) and placed his registration on probation for two years. He was convicted of petty theft on more than one occasion, and criminal mischief. He must comply with terms and conditions set against his registration.

**Oregon:** In January 2011 the Board of Hearing and Speech granted the application of speech language pathologist interim **Jocelyn Louise Meussdorffer** (SI60177007) and placed conditions against her credential. She was convicted of driving under the influence in 2008. She must comply with terms and conditions set against her credential.

**Note to Editors:** Health care providers charged with unprofessional conduct have 20 days to respond to the Department of Health in writing. The case then enters the settlement process. If no disciplinary agreement can be reached, the case will go to a hearing.

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Visit the Washington Department of Health website at <a href="http://www.doh.wa.gov">http://www.doh.wa.gov</a> for a healthy dose of information.